

best as he can determine it. He seeks it out, and he speaks it, regardless of who will be discomfited.

He has done so with rigor, and wit, a little bit of mischief now and then, and uncommon decency.

I have been privileged to work in the United States Senate for 16 years, and for several outstanding members, Republicans and Democrats. I will not see another Moy-nihan in my career. He is *sui generis*.

When Thomas Jefferson followed Benjamin Franklin as envoy to France, he told the Comte de Vergennes, "I succeed him; no one could replace him." Others will succeed Moy-nihan; no one will replace him. We should pause for a moment, and give thanks that he has devoted his life and considerable talents to public service.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, September 5, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,678,475,470,839.16, five trillion, six hundred seventy-eight billion, four hundred seventy-five million, four hundred seventy thousand, eight hundred thirty-nine dollars and sixteen cents.

Five years ago, September 5, 1995, the Federal debt stood at \$4,968,613,000,000, four trillion, nine hundred sixty-eight billion, six hundred thirteen million.

Ten years ago, September 5, 1990, the Federal debt stood at \$3,241,866,000,000, three trillion, two hundred forty-one billion, eight hundred sixty-six million.

Fifteen years ago, September 5, 1985, the Federal debt stood at \$1,823,101,000,000, one trillion, eight hundred twenty-three billion, one hundred one million.

Twenty-five years ago, September 5, 1975, the Federal debt stood at \$545,270,000,000, five hundred forty-five billion, two hundred seventy million which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,133,205,470,839.16, five trillion, one hundred thirty-three billion, two hundred five million, four hundred seventy thousand, eight hundred thirty-nine dollars and sixteen cents during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNITION OF TOM NORRIS AND JAMES BROWN FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FEDERAL WAY SUMMER MATH PROGRAM

• Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, imagine 140 students who want to spend their summer learning math. For students participating in the Summer Math Program at Thomas Jefferson High School in Federal Way, Washington, this is just the case. For the past five years, Tom Norris and James Brown have worked tirelessly and created a successful program that has dramatically improved the math skills of hundreds of students.

When Mr. Norris and Mr. Brown started the Summer Math Program, they had five students in attendance. Since then, the program has become

well-known throughout Thomas Jefferson High School as a resource for students struggling with math or hoping to improve their SAT scores and has grown by leaps and bounds.

The Summer Math Program is based on a three part system that includes: Advanced Algebra or Pre-Calculus, an SAT summer program, and "The Math Team." The Advanced Algebra and Pre-Calculus course enables students who desire to complete Calculus before they leave high school to enroll in higher math classes in the following school year. The SAT summer program, offered at a much lower cost than other SAT review classes, equips students with the skills and confidence needed for their college preparatory exams. As a result, Thomas Jefferson High School has some of the highest SAT scores in the South Puget Sound of Washington State.

Additionally, students who enjoy competing in math competitions can participate on the Math Team. Students practice throughout the summer in preparation for the annual national competition which took place in July. As a true testament to the excellence of the program, Mr. Norris and Mr. Brown coached the team to a fifth-place victory last summer when the students participated against 50 other schools. This certainly was a great accomplishment for the program and students participating!

Samuel Kim, a Math Team member who will be a senior this year, told me that the Math Team, "keeps you in the right frame of mind during summer so you can keep your math skills strong, and it gives you good interaction with others." Samuel had nothing but applause for his coaches stating, "Mr. Norris is very friendly and inspirational, yet demanding and excited to see us succeed in competition, while Mr. Brown is more light-hearted in his motivational tactics."

The record of the Math Team and the achievements of students in the Summer Math Program speaks not only to the excellence of the program but also to the efforts and drive of both Mr. Norris and Mr. Brown. Their dedication to education, and math in particular, is rarely paralleled in other local school districts during the summer months. I am impressed with the dedication of these two men to their students' education even during the summer months. It is with great pleasure that I recognize them for their outstanding service to the students of Thomas Jefferson High School. •

RETIRED U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE ROBERT R. MERHIGE, JR.

• Mr. ROBB. Mr. President, I'd like to take a moment to pay special recognition to a good friend of mine and a distinguished former jurist, Robert R. Merhige, Jr. of Richmond, Virginia. Now in private practice after serving as a U.S. District Judge, Bob was recognized a few months ago in an article in

The National Law Journal as the driving force behind the resolution of the Dalkon Shield Claimants Trust. The article details Judge Merhige's efforts to resolve over 400,000 claims, and it's clear that he accomplished this difficult task by working towards a fair result with skill and intellect. He kept his eye on the ball until the job was concluded. I ask that the article be printed in the RECORD.

[From the National Law Journal, May 15, 2000]

\$3 BILLION LATER, DALKON TRUST CLOSES SHOP: MASS TORT CLEARINGHOUSE SEEN BY SOME AS THE BEST-RUN OUTFIT OF ITS KIND (By Alan Cooper)

RICHMOND, VA.—The numbers are impressive, even by mass tort standards.

More than 400,000 claims reviewed. Nearly \$3 billion distributed. Administrative costs just 9%, including lawyer fees.

Even more impressive, the job is done.

The Dalkon Shield Claimants Trust closed on April 30 with a claim to being the best-managed mass tort plan so far.

Retired U.S. District Judge Robert R. Merhige, Jr., now of counsel at Hunton & Williams, gets much of the credit for what many view as the success of the trust, as well as the blame for what others see as its shortcomings.

The trust emerged from the 1985 bankruptcy petition of A.H. Robins Co., which sold 3.6 million intrauterine birth devices called the Dalkon Shield between 1971 and 1974. Robins took it off the market under government pressure.

Robins and its products liability insurer, Aetna Casualty & Surety Co., were overwhelmed by allegations that women had suffered perforated uteruses and pelvic inflammatory disease that left them sterile. More than 326,000 women filed claims in response to a worldwide ad campaign.

Judge Merhige's 1987 estimate that the liability wouldn't top \$2.475 billion set off a bidding war, won by American Home Products Corp. It acquired Robins by providing about \$2.3 billion for claimants, to be paid by the trust, and \$700 million-plus in stock to Robins shareholders.

Claimants' payments were based on amounts Robins paid to settle cases before the bankruptcy and based on their medical records. With interest, they totaled nearly \$3 billion.

Robert E. Manchester, of Burlington, Vt., who represented 3,500-plus claimants, said of Judge Merhige, "He shaped the solution by tapping into people who were willing to be constructive."

"There was a significant number of people who felt they were treated badly by the process"—mostly atypical claimants—plaintiffs' lawyer Stephen W. Bricker, of Richmond said.

James F. Szaller, of Cleveland's Brown & Szaller, said that Judge Merhige "sometimes took unusual courses, but he did get it done. The result for the vast majority of people was good." •

RETURN OF FLAGSHIP "NIAGARA" TO LAKE ERIE

• Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I would like to recognize Captain Walter Rybka and the officers and crew of the Flagship *Niagara* on their return from their East Coast ten-month voyage. The Flagship *Niagara* is a symbol of Erie, Pennsylvania's history and serves as an Ambassador of the Commonwealth when it participates in tall ship